

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the three-paragraph abstract at page 30 with the following merged and amended abstract:

SUMMARY ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to retroviral expression vectors with cell-specifically controllable promoters. ~~For example, the~~ The vectors ~~may~~ can be used for the cell-specific expression of genes of therapeutic value in ~~the context of~~ a gene therapy. The present invention ~~describes~~ specifically relates to retroviral expression vectors containing at least the following elements ~~in functional assembly~~: (a) DNA sequences for the packaging of the vector RNA and for cell-specific expression of proteins or peptides encoded by heterologous DNA nucleotide sequences; and (b) one or more DNA nucleotide sequences encoding a protein or peptide ~~wherein said~~ The DNA sequences for the cell-specific expression ~~thereof~~ contain a cell-specifically controllable promoter region from a human endogenous retroviral DNA nucleotide sequence (HERV).